

Thursday, June 7, 2007

House Meets At...	Votes Predicted At...
10:00 a.m. For Legislative Business Five "One-minutes" Per Side	Last Vote: 5:00 p.m.

Any anticipated Member absences for votes this week should be reported to the Office of the Majority Whip at 226-3210.

Floor Schedule and Procedure

- **H. Res. 464-Rule providing for consideration of S. 5-the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007 (Rep. Matsui-Rules):** The closed rule provides for one hour of debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Energy and Commerce. The rule provides one motion to commit. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Matsui and consideration will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the rule.
 - Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
 - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**
- **S. 5-the Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007 (Sen. Reid-Energy and Commerce):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Energy and Commerce Committee Chair Rep. John Dingell, or his designee, and will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to commit the bill.
 - Vote on passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**
- **H. Res. 465-Rule providing for consideration of H.R. 65-the Lumbee Recognition Act (Rep. Arcuri-Rules):** The closed rule provides one hour of general debate equally divided and controlled by the chairman and ranking minority member of the Committee on Natural Resources. The rule makes in order the amendment in the nature of a substitute reported by the Committee on Natural Resources, modified by the amendment printed in the Rules Committee report. The rule provides one motion to recommit with or without instructions. Debate on the rule will be managed by Rep. Arcuri and consideration will proceed in the following order:

- One hour of debate on the rule.
 - Possible vote on a Democratic motion to move the previous question. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on the motion.**
 - Vote on adoption of the rule. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on adoption of the rule.**
- **H.R. 65-the Lumbee Recognition Act (Rep. McIntyre-Natural Resources):** Pursuant to the rule, debate on the bill will be managed by Natural Resources Committee Chair Rep. Nick Rahall, or his designee, and will proceed in the following order:
 - One hour of debate on the bill.
 - Possible debate and vote on a Republican motion to recommit the bill.
 - Vote on passage of the bill. **Democrats are urged to vote yes on final passage.**

Bill Summary and Key Issues

S. 5 - Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2007

- **Bipartisan Bill.** The measure has widespread bipartisan support. The Senate passed S. 1 on April 11 by a vote of 63 to 34. The House passed a similar measure, H.R. 3, on a vote of 253 to 174 on January 11, 2007. The text of S. 5 is the same as H.R. 3, except that the Senate bill contains an added provision that would direct the Secretary of HHS to conduct and support research on alternative human pluripotent stem cells.
- **Embryonic Stem Cell Research.** The bill authorizes the Health and Human Services Department (HHS) to conduct and support research involving human embryonic stem cells that meet certain criteria, regardless of the date on which the stem cells were derived from a human embryo. Specifically, the measure limits such research to stem cells that meet the following ethical requirements: (1) the stem cells were derived from human embryos donated from in vitro fertilization clinics for the purpose of fertility treatment and were in excess of the needs of the individuals seeking such treatment; (2) the embryos would never be implanted in a woman and would otherwise be discarded; and (3) such individuals donate the embryos with written informed consent and receive no financial or other inducements.
- **Guidelines and Report on Embryonic Stem Cell Research.** The bill directs HHS to: (1) issue final guidelines to carry out this Act within 60 days; and (2) submit annual reports on activities and research conducted under this Act.
- **Pluripotent Stem Cell Research.** The bill also authorizes HHS to conduct and support research on pluripotent stem cell research — research on stem cells not derived from human embryos. The measure authorizes funding as may be necessary for each of fiscal years 2008 through 2010 for such research. The House-passed bill, HR 3, contained no comparable provision. Within 90 days of enactment, the Secretary, after consulting with the Director of NIH, would be required to (1) provide guidance concerning the next steps required for additional research, including the extent to which additional basic or animal research is required; (2) prioritize research that holds the greatest potential for near-term clinical

- benefit; and (3) take into account techniques outlined by the President's Council on Bioethics and any other appropriate techniques and research.
- Guidelines and Report on Pluripotent Stem Cell Research. The Secretary would be required to prepare and submit to the appropriate committees of Congress an annual report describing the activities and research conducted.

H.R.65 - Lumbee Recognition Act

- **Federal Recognition**. HR 65 extends federal recognition to the Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina. The Tribe has been recognized as an American Indian Tribe by the state of North Carolina since 1885. However, a 1956 law, the Lumbee Act, acknowledged the tribe, but expressly prohibited the Lumbee Indians from receiving any federal assistance based on their status as American Indians. Because of this law, the tribe is currently unable to gain recognition through the Interior Department's acknowledgement process.
- **Eligibility for Federal Benefits**. HR 65 specifies that tribe members living in Robeson, Cumberland, Hoke, and Scotland counties in North Carolina would be considered to be residing on or near an Indian reservation for purposes of receiving federal benefits. Under the bill, all members on tribal rolls on the date of enactment would be eligible for federal benefits available to American Indian tribes. Within two years of enactment, the Interior Department would have to verify the tribe's membership rolls. After the tribe members are verified, the measure requires the Interior Department and the Health and Human Services Department to develop, in cooperation with the tribe, a budget plan for benefits and services. This budget plan would then be submitted to Congress.
- **Prohibits Gambling**. The bill explicitly prohibits the Lumbee Tribe from conducting gaming under the Indian Gaming Regulatory Act or any other federal law.
- **Legal Jurisdiction**. HR 65 provides North Carolina jurisdiction over all civil and criminal matters on land owned by, or held in federal trust for, the Lumbee Tribe. The state, however, could transfer jurisdiction over such matters to the federal government if the tribe agrees.

Quote of the Day

"No one could make a greater mistake than he who did nothing because he could do only a little." -Edmund Burke

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